

When One Path Ends, Another Begins

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Ralph Waldo Emerson had once said “For everything you have missed, you have gained something else.” Every time I lose something dear to me, I will gain something else that will teach me lessons I will never forget. When I was young, I found this saying extremely hard to understand. It was only until I experienced it first hand that I began to grasp its true meaning.

In Primary School, I used to think that life could not be better. I had good grades, wonderful friends, and a friendly school environment. All of these disappeared when I entered secondary school. My grades started dropping because of the stress. All my friends had gone to a different school. And on top of that, I was in a totally foreign environment where everyone was competing to be the best. I felt suffocated and thought that nothing good will ever happen again.

However, that was not the case. My loss made me see that there were people out there who cared about me, and that there were things I could achieve. When I complained about how tough school was, my parents were always there to comfort me. When I was tempted to break the school rules, my teachers never hesitated to reprimand and even punish me. And when I became blind to all the things I should be grateful for, my friends and seniors were there to remind me of how lucky I was.

My loss made me feel miserable and alone, but it also helped me to mature and find my own happiness. Because of my loss, I gained an insight on what I should and should not be doing. I also learnt to be thankful for what I have. Most importantly, it made me realize that no matter what difficulties come my way, I will always have support from my friends and family.

“For everything you have missed, you have gained something else.” Emerson was right. It is true that I will miss many things in my life, such as opportunities, relationships and success. But I will also gain many experiences from those failures, and learn from my mistakes. That is why I believe that when one path ends, another begins.